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FOR S/WE MEHRA AND LANE
ALSO FOR NEA/PI

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KWMN](#) [PHUM](#) [UNGA](#) [BA](#) [ROW](#) [HUMRIT](#)
SUBJECT: BAHRAIN: FOLLOW UP TO SECRETARY RICE'S STRATEGY
SESSION ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

REF: STATE 178055

(U) Pol/Econ Chief October 26 delivered reftel fact sheet concerning follow up to the Secretary's session on women's empowerment to MFA Director for International Organization Affairs Ghassan Shaikho. Shaikho appreciated receiving the fact sheet and pledged to pass it to Bahraini organizations working on women's empowerment. In response to reftel question, there are currently two women in the Bahraini cabinet who would be interested in pursuing women's empowerment programs - Minister of Health Dr. Nada Haffadh and Minister of Social Development Dr. Fatima Al Baloushi. Post has partnered with several Bahraini women's organizations in support of MEPI and other programming, including the Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain Business Women's Society, Bahrain Women's Society, and Al Sharaka Society, among others.

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